key to the problem of seasonal forecasting no one is at present in a position to say; but it is quite clear that we shall never know until the observations have been made. It is for this reason that a long series of observations taken in the same place is so urgently required from the Antarctic. I wish it clearly to be understood that no promise can be made that if a station is provided it will give the information required to forecast droughts; all that can be said is that until the observations are made there will always remain the possibility that essential information for the solution of the problem is not being obtained.

Long-range forecasting, however, is only one of the problems which require information from the Antarctic. There are a number of others and until we have regular observations from the Antarctic our knowledge of the atmosphere must be incomplete. The same applies to other geophysical subjects which equally require data from a long series of years: for example, problems of the aurora, terrestrial magnetism and the new studies of the high atmosphere which are so important in the development of wireless communications. All these studies do not require an extended net work of stations; the observations from two or three stations in high latitudes would suffice and the observations from one station would be of very great value. I have consistently advocated for a number of years the establishment of two stations, on opposite sides of the Antarctic Continent, to be established by international co-operation. The best form of this

co-operation